Akarana pump station: final report (HNZPTA authority 2022/716)

report to
Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga
and
Watercare Services Ltd

Leela Moses and Ella Ussher



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Prepared by:

Leela Moses

Reviewed by:

Arden Cruickshank

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1 Introduction

Watercare Services have constructed a new pump station on Sec 75 SO 421535, Part DP 22851, Sec 41 SO 421535, Part Lot 344 DP 19327, Sec 36 SO 421535, and the Road Reserve as part of the larger Waikowhai Watermains project. One archaeological site, the historic Winstone Homestead (R11/2819), is recorded in the New Zealand Archaeological Association (NZAA) Site Recording Scheme (SRS) within 20 m of the works (Ussher 2022).

Watercare applied to Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga (HNZPT) for an archaeological authority under section 44 of the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Act 2014 to undertake the works. Authority 2022/716 was granted on 7 July 2022 and archaeological monitoring was undertaken on 13 June 2023 by Leela Moses of CFG Heritage.

2 Summary of assessment

The assessment determined that the works could have an impact on potential unrecorded archaeological deposits (Ussher 2022). A historic midden associated with the Winstone Homestead (R11/2819) had previously been encountered near the proposed works. It was noted that further related subsurface deposits were likely present, and that pump station works were to take place in apparently unmodified ground near the Winstone Homestead. In addition to historic deposits, the works took place near the base of Puketāpapa / Mt Roskill (R11/19), and pre-European Māori deposits related to the occupation of the pā may have been present.

The report recommended applying for an HNZPTA authority to undertake parts of the works.

3 Results

The asphalt removal to sterile marked in yellow in Figure 2 was monitored, with the remainder of works following the guidelines outlined in the Archaeological Works Plan.

The pavement surface and basecourse was removed, and no topsoil was present. This area appears to have been cut down, and this was probably during the removal of the house in the 1990s. No archaeological features were identified within the footprint of the pump station.

Elsewhere in the works area the soils were reported as mixed, with modern rubbish present, and scoria boulders at the lower depths. No archaeological features were encountered during works.

4 Discussion

No archaeological material was encountered during pump station works. Although initial assessments suggested that the area was largely unmodified, and that material related to the Winstone Homestead may have remained, monitoring determined that the carpark area has been heavily modified, most likely during the removal of the homestead and construction of the carpark.

5 Conclusion

Construction of the Akarana Pump Station took place near the site of the Winstone Homestead (R11/2819) and Puketāpapa / Mt Roskill (R11/19). Earthworks were monitored on and completed 13 June 2023. The area appears to have been modified, and no archaeological features was encountered. No further analysis is required and this report has been written to satisfy conditions 7 and 8 of HNZPTA authority 2022/176.

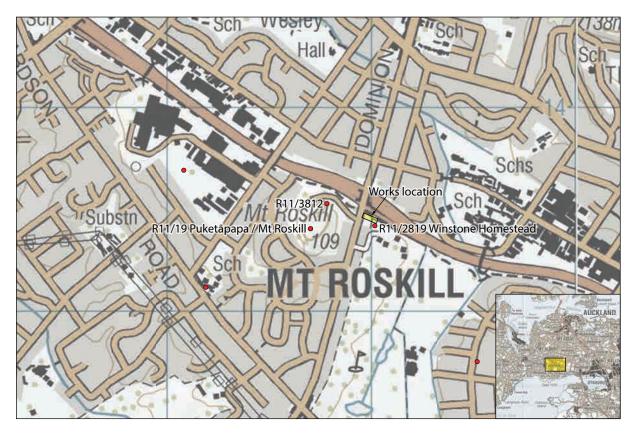


Figure 1. Location of the Akarana pump station and recorded archaeological sites in the area.



Figure 2. Site plan, showing areas of works monitored.

2 Akarana pump station



Figure 3. View south of pavement removal.

References

Ussher, E. 2022. Akarana pump station: archaeological assessment. Unpublished CFG Heritage report to Stantec and Watercare Services Ltd.